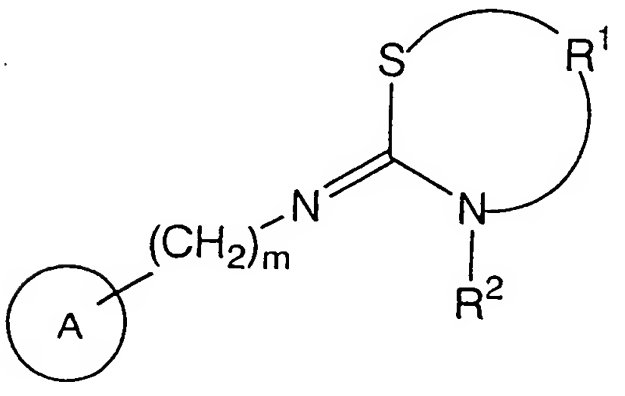
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

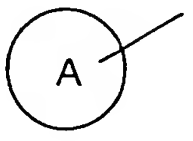
Claim 1 (withdrawn): A pharmaceutical composition of a compound of the formula (I):



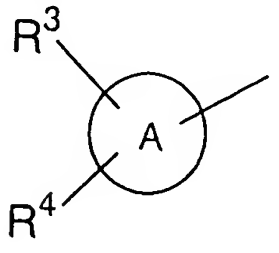
(I)

wherein R^1 is optionally substituted alkylene, R^2 is alkyl; a group of the formula: $-C(=R^5)-R^6$ wherein R^5 is O or S, R^6 is alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, optionally substituted amino, optionally substituted aralkyloxy, optionally substituted aralkylthio, optionally substituted aralkylamino, alkoxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl or optionally substituted aminoalkyl; or a group of the formula: $-SO_2R^7$ wherein R^7 is alkyl, optionally substituted amino, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted heteroaryl, m is an integer of 1 to 2, A is optionally substituted aromatic carbocycle or optionally substituted aromatic heterocycle, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein the group of the formula:



is a group of the formula:



wherein R^3 and R^4 each is independently, hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, optionally substituted amino, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aryloxy, cycloalkyl,

halogen, hydroxyl, nitro, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, optionally substituted carbamoyl, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, optionally substituted aminoalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, alkylthioalkoxy, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted non-aromatic heterocyclic group, alkoxyiminoalkyl or a group of the formula: $-C(=O)-R^H$ wherein R^H is hydrogen, alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted non-aromactic heterocyclic group,
or R^3 and R^4 taken together may form alkylenedioxy, A is optionally substituted aromatic carbocycle or optionally substituted aromatic heterocycle.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 which has a binding activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3 which has an agonistic activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3 which is useful as an anti-inflammatory agent.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3 which is useful as an immunosuppressive agent.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3 which is useful has a nephritis treating agent.

Claims 8-14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (withdrawn): A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound according to claim 8, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15 which has a binding activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 which has an agonistic activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 which is useful as an anti-inflammatory agent.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 which is useful as an immunosuppressive agent.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 which is useful as a nephritis treating agent.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): A method for treating inflammation which comprises administering the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): A method of immunosuppression which comprises administering the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1.

Claim 23 (withdrawn): A method for treating nephritis which comprises administering the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1.

Claims 24-27 (canceled)

Claim 28 (withdrawn): A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound according to claim 27, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 28 which has a binding activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 28 which has an agonistic activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

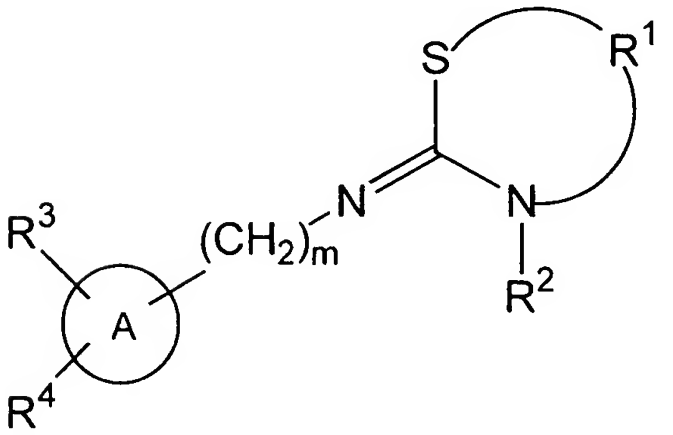
Claim 31 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 28 which is useful as an anti-inflammatory agent.

Claim 32 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 28 which is useful as an immunosuppressive agent.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 28 which is useful as a nephritis treating agent.

Claim 34 (withdrawn): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2 which has a binding activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

Claim 35 (currently amended): A compound of the formula (II):



(II)

wherein

R^1 is trimethylene optionally substituted C1-C10 alkyl, C2-C10 alkylene, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkylthio, C1-C10 alkylamino, acylamino, C6-C14 aryl, C6-C14 aryloxy, halogen, hydroxy, amino, nitro, C1-C10 alkylsulfonyl, C6-C14 arylsulfonyl, cyano, hydroxyamino, carboxy, C1-C10 alkoxycarbonyl, acyl, C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyl, mercapto, hydrazine, amino, or guanidino;

R^2 is a group of the formula: $-C(=R^5)-R^6$ wherein:

R^5 is O or S;

R^6 is:

C1-C10 alkoxy;
C1-C10 alkylthio;
C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy optionally substituted with (i) C1-C10 alkyl, (ii) C1-C10 alkoxy, (iii) C1-C10 alkylthio, (iv) amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, (v) C6-C14 aryl optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkylthio, amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C6-C14 aryl, C6-C14 aryloxy, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C10 alkoxy substituted with one or more halogen, carbamoyl optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, carboxy, C1-C10 alkoxy-carbonyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfinyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfonyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkylthio-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyloxy, C1-C9 heteroaryl having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C9 non-aromatic ring having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C10 alkoxyimino-C1-C10 alkyl, formyl, C1-C10 alkylcarbonyl, C6-C14 arylcarbonyl, C1-C9 non-aromatic heterocyclic group ~~having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms~~ selected from the group consisting of 1-pyrrolinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, 3-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidino, 2-pyrrolidinyl, 3-pyrrolidinyl, 1-imidazolinyl, 2-imidazolinyl, 4-imidazolinyl, 1-imidazolidinyl, 2-imidazolidinyl, 4-imidazolidinyl, 1-pyrazolinyl, 3-pyrazolinyl, 4-pyrazolinyl, 1-pyrazolidinyl, 3-pyrazolidinyl, 4-pyrazolidinyl, piperdino, 2-piperidyl, 3-piperidyl, 4-piperidyl, piperazino, 2-piperazinyl, 2-morpholinyl, 3-morpholinyl, morpholino, and tetrahydropyranyl, C6-C14 arylsulfonyl, cyano, hydroxyimino, C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyl, mercapto, hydrazino, amidino, guanidino, isocyano, isocyanato, thiocyanato, isothiocyanato, sulfamoyl, formyloxy, formyl substituted with halogen, oxalo, thioformyl, thiocarboxy, dithiocarboxy, thiocarbamoyl, sulfino, sulfo, sulfoamino, azido, ureido, amidino, guanidino, oxo, thioxo,
(vi) C6-C14 aryloxy optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkylthio, amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C6-C14 aryl, C6-C14 aryloxy, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C10 alkoxy substituted with one or more halogen, carbamoyl optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, carboxy, C1-C10 alkoxy-carbonyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfinyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfonyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkylthio-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyloxy, C1-C9 heteroaryl having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C9

non-aromatic ring having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C10 alkoxyimino-C1-C10 alkyl, formyl, C1-C10 alkylcarbonyl, C6-C14 arylcarbonyl, C1-C9 non-aromatic heterocyclic group ~~having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms~~ selected from the group consisting of 1-pyrrolinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, 3-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidino, 2-pyrrolidinyl, 3-pyrrolidinyl, 1-imidazolinyl, 2-imidazolinyl, 4-imidazolinyl, 1-imidazolidinyl, 2-imidazolidinyl, 4-imidazolidinyl, 1-pyrazolinyl, 3-pyrazolinyl, 4-pyrazolinyl, 1-pyrazolidinyl, 3-pyrazolidinyl, 4-pyrazolidinyl, piperdino, 2-piperidyl, 3-piperidyl, 4-piperidyl, piperazino, 2-piperazinyl, 2-morpholinyl, 3-morpholinyl, morpholino, and tetrahydropyranyl, C6-C14 arylsulfonyl, cyano, hydroxyimino, C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyl, mercapto, hydrazino, amidino, guanidino, isocyano, isocyanato, thiocyanato, isothiocyanato, sulfamoyl, formyloxy, formyl substituted with halogen, oxalo, thioformyl, thiocarboxy, dithiocarboxy, thiocarbamoyl, sulfino, sulfo, sulfoamino, azido, ureido, amidino, guanidino, oxo, thioxo,

(vii) C3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C10 alkoxy substituted with one or more halogen, carbamoyl optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, carboxy, C1-C10 alkoxy-carbonyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfinyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfonyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkylthio-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyloxy, C1-C10 alkylthio-C1-C10 alkyloxy,

(viii) C1-C9 heteroaryl having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkylthio, amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C6-C14 aryl, C6-C14 aryloxy, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C10 alkoxy substituted with one or more halogen, carbamoyl optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, carboxy, C1-C10 alkoxy-carbonyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfinyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfonyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkylthio-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyloxy, C1-C9 heteroaryl having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C9 non-aromatic ring having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C10 alkoxyimino-C1-C10 alkyl, formyl, C1-C10 alkylcarbonyl, C6-C14 arylcarbonyl, C1-C9 non-aromatic heterocyclic group ~~having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms~~ selected from the group consisting of 1-pyrrolinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, 3-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidino, 2-pyrrolidinyl, 3-pyrrolidinyl, 1-imidazolinyl, 2-imidazolinyl, 4-imidazolinyl, 1-imidazolidinyl, 2-imidazolidinyl, 4-imidazolidinyl, 1-pyrazolinyl, 3-pyrazolinyl,

4-pyrazolinyl, 1-pyrazolidinyl, 3-pyrazolidinyl, 4-pyrazolidinyl, piperdino, 2-piperidyl, 3-piperidyl, 4-piperidyl, piperazino, 2-piperazinyl, 2-morpholinyl, 3-morpholinyl, morpholino, and tetrahydropyranyl, C6-C14 arylsulfonyl, cyano, hydroxyimino, C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyl, mercapto, hydrazino, amidino, guanidino, isocyano, isocyanato, thiocyanato, isothiocyanato, sulfamoyl, formyloxy, formyl substituted with halogen, oxalo, thioformyl, thiocarboxy, dithiocarboxy, thiocarbamoyl, sulfino, sulfo, sulfoamino, azido, ureido, amidino, guanidino, oxo, thioxo,

(ix) C1-C9 non-aromatic ring having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkylthio, amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C6-C14 aryl, C6-C14 aryloxy, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C10 alkoxy substituted with one or more halogen, carbamoyl optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, carboxy, C1-C10 alkoxy-carbonyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfinyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfonyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkylthio-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyloxy, C1-C9 heteroaryl having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C9 non-aromatic ring having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C10 alkoxyimino-C1-C10 alkyl, formyl, C1-C10 alkylcarbonyl, C6-C14 arylcarbonyl, C1-C9 non-aromatic heterocyclic group ~~having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms~~ selected from the group consisting of 1-pyrrolinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, 3-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidino, 2-pyrrolidinyl, 3-pyrrolidinyl, 1-imidazolinyl, 2-imidazolinyl, 4-imidazolinyl, 1-imidazolidinyl, 2-imidazolidinyl, 4-imidazolidinyl, 1-pyrazolinyl, 3-pyrazolinyl, 4-pyrazolinyl, 1-pyrazolidinyl, 3-pyrazolidinyl, 4-pyrazolidinyl, piperdino, 2-piperidyl, 3-piperidyl, 4-piperidyl, piperazino, 2-piperazinyl, 2-morpholinyl, 3-morpholinyl, morpholino, and tetrahydropyranyl, C6-C14 arylsulfonyl, cyano, hydroxyimino, C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyl, mercapto, hydrazino, amidino, guanidino, isocyano, isocyanato, thiocyanato, isothiocyanato, sulfamoyl, formyloxy, formyl substituted with halogen, oxalo, thioformyl, thiocarboxy, dithiocarboxy, thiocarbamoyl, sulfino, sulfo, sulfoamino, azido, ureido, amidino, guanidino, oxo, thioxo,

(x) C1-C10 alkoxyimino-C1-C10 alkyl,

(xi) formyl,

(xii) C1-C10 alkylcarbonyl,

(xiii) C6-C14 arylcarbonyl, optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkylthio, amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C6-C14 aryl, C6-C14 aryloxy, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C10 alkoxy substituted with one or more halogen, carbamoyl optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, carboxy, C1-C10 alkoxy-carbonyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfinyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfonyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkylthio-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyloxy, C1-C9 heteroaryl having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C9 non-aromatic ring having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C10 alkoxyimino-C1-C10 alkyl, formyl, C1-C10 alkylcarbonyl, C6-C14 arylcarbonyl, C1-C9 non-aromatic heterocyclic group ~~having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms~~ selected from the group consisting of 1-pyrrolinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, 3-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidino, 2-pyrrolidinyl, 3- pyrrolidinyl, 1-imidazolinyl, 2-imidazolinyl, 4-imidazolinyl, 1-imidazolidinyl, 2-imidazolidinyl, 4-imidazolidinyl, 1-pyrazolinyl, 3-pyrazolinyl, 4-pyrazolinyl, 1-pyrazolidinyl, 3-pyrazolidinyl, 4-pyrazolidinyl, piperdino, 2-piperidyl, 3-piperidyl, 4-piperidyl, piperazino, 2-piperazinyl, 2-morpholinyl, 3-morpholinyl, morpholino, and tetrahydropyranyl, C6-C14 arylsulfonyl, cyano, hydroxyimino, C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyl, mercapto, hydrazino, amidino, guanidino, isocyano, isocyanato, thiocyanato, isothiocyanato, sulfamoyl, formyloxy, formyl substituted with halogen, oxalo, thioformyl, thiocarboxy, dithiocarboxy, thiocarbamoyl, sulfino, sulfo, sulfoamino, azido, ureido, amidino, guanidino, oxo, thioxo,

(xiv) C1-C9 non-aromatic heterocyclic group ~~having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms~~ selected from the group consisting of 1-pyrrolinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, 3-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidino, 2-pyrrolidinyl, 3-pyrrolidinyl, 1-imidazolinyl, 2-imidazolinyl, 4-imidazolinyl, 1-imidazolidinyl, 2-imidazolidinyl, 4-imidazolidinyl, 1-pyrazolinyl, 3-pyrazolinyl, 4-pyrazolinyl, 1-pyrazolidinyl, 3-pyrazolidinyl, 4-pyrazolidinyl, piperdino, 2-piperidyl, 3-piperidyl, 4-piperidyl, piperazino, 2-piperazinyl, 2-morpholinyl, 3-morpholinyl, morpholino, and tetrahydropyranyl, optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkylthio, amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C6-C14 aryl, C6-C14 aryloxy, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C10 alkoxy substituted with one or more halogen, carbamoyl optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, carboxy, C1-C10 alkoxy-carbonyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfinyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfonyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkylthio-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with amino optionally substituted with

C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C1-C10 alkyloxy-C1-C10 alkyloxy, C1-C9 heteroaryl having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C9 non-aromatic ring having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms, C1-C10 alkoxyimino-C1-C10 alkyl, formyl, C1-C10 alkylcarbonyl, C6-C14 arylcarbonyl, C1-C9 non-aromatic heterocyclic group ~~having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms~~ selected from the group consisting of 1-pyrrolinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, 3-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidino, 2-pyrrolidinyl, 3-pyrrolidinyl, 1-imidazolinyl, 2-imidazolinyl, 4-imidazolinyl, 1-imidazolidinyl, 2-imidazolidinyl, 4-imidazolidinyl, 1-pyrazolinyl, 3-pyrazolinyl, 4-pyrazolinyl, 1-pyrazolidinyl, 3-pyrazolidinyl, 4-pyrazolidinyl, piperdino, 2-piperidyl, 3-piperidyl, 4-piperidyl, piperazino, 2-piperazinyl, 2-morpholinyl, 3-morpholinyl, morpholino, and tetrahydropyranyl, C6-C14 arylsulfonyl, cyano, hydroxyimino, C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyl, mercapto, hydrazino, amidino, guanidino, isocyano, isocyanato, thiocyanato, isothiocyanato, sulfamoyl, formyloxy, formyl substituted with halogen, oxalo, thioformyl, thiocarboxy, dithiocarboxy, thiocarbamoyl, sulfino, sulfo, sulfoamino, azido, ureido, amidino, guanidino, oxo, thioxo,

(xv) C6-C14 arylsulfonyl,

(xvi) cyano,

(xvii) hydroxyimino,

(xviii) C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyl,

(xix) mercapto,

(xx) hydrazino,

(xxi) amidino,

(xxii) guanidino,

(xxiii) isocyano,

(xxiv) isocyanato,

(xxv) thiocyanato,

(xxvi) isothiocyanato,

(xxvii) sulfamoyl,

(xxviii) formyloxy,

(xxix) formyl substituted with halogen, oxalo, thioformyl, thiocarboxy, dithiocarboxy, thiocarbamoyl, sulfino, sulfo, sulfoamino, azido, ureido, amidino, guanidino, oxo, thioxo;

C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkylthio optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy,

C1-C10 alkoxy-C1-C10 alkyl;

C1-C10 alkylthio-C1-C10 alkyl; or

C1-C10 alkyl substituted with amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl;

R^3 and R^4 each is independently hydrogen, C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkylthio, amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C6-C14 aryl optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy; C6-C14 aryloxy optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy , C3-C7 cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, halo C1-C10 alkyl, halo C1-C10 alkoxy, carbamoyl optionally substituted C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, carboxy, C1-C10 alkoxycarbonyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfinyl, C1-C10 alkylsulfonyl, C1-C10 alkoxy-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkylthio-C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkyl substituted with amino optionally substituted C1-C10 alkyl or acyl, C1-C10 alkoxy-C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkylthio-C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C9 heteroaryl having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy, C1-C9 non-aromatic heterocyclic group ~~having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms~~ selected from the group consisting of 1-pyrrolinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, 3-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidino, 2-pyrrolidinyl, 3-pyrrolidinyl, 1-imidazolinyl, 2-imidazolinyl, 4-imidazolinyl, 1-imidazolidinyl, 2-imidazolidinyl, 4-imidazolidinyl, 1-pyrazolinyl, 3-pyrazolinyl, 4-pyrazolinyl, 1-pyrazolidinyl, 3-pyrazolidinyl, 4-pyrazolidinyl, piperdino, 2-piperidyl, 3-piperidyl, 4-piperidyl, piperazino, 2-piperazinyl, 2-morpholinyl, 3-morpholinyl, morpholino, and tetrahydropyranyl optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy, C1-C10 alkoxyimino- C1-C10 alkyl, or a group of the formula: $-C(=O)-R^H$ wherein R^H is hydrogen, C1-C10 alkyl, C6-C14 aryl optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy or C1-C9 non-aromatic heterocyclic group ~~having one to four nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur atoms~~ selected from the group consisting of 1-pyrrolinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, 3-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidino, 2-pyrrolidinyl, 3-pyrrolidinyl, 1-imidazolinyl, 2-imidazolinyl, 4- imidazolinyl, 1-imidazolidinyl, 2-imidazolidinyl, 4-imidazolidinyl, 1-pyrazolinyl, 3-pyrazolinyl, 4-pyrazolinyl, 1-pyrazolidinyl, 3-pyrazolidinyl, 4-pyrazolidinyl, piperdino, 2-piperidyl, 3-piperidyl, 4-piperidyl, piperazino, 2-piperazinyl, 2-morpholinyl, 3-morpholinyl, morpholino, and tetrahydropyranyl optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy; or

R^3 and R^4 taken together may form C2-C10 alkylenedioxy;

m is an integer of 0 to 2;
A is benzene optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy, provided that when R^5 is O and R^6 is C1-C10 alkoxy, R^1 is not unsubstituted trimethylene;
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 35 wherein m is 0, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 35 wherein R^1 is a trimethylene optionally substituted with C1-C6 alkyl or C2-C6 alkylene, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 35 wherein R^1 is a trimethylene substituted with C2-C6 alkylene or optionally substituted with C1-C6 alkyl, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 35 wherein R^6 is C1-C10 alkoxy or C1-C10 alkylthio, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 35 wherein R^3 and R^4 each is independently hydrogen, C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkoxy or C1-C10 alkylthio;
A is benzene optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy or naphthalene optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy;
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 35 wherein R^1 is 2,2-dimethyltrimethylene, 2,2-diethyltrimethylene, 2,2-ethylenetrimethylene, 1-methyltrimethylene, 2-methyltrimethylene, trimethylene, 2,2-di-n-propyltrimethylene, 2,2-tetramethylenetrimethylene, 2,2-pentamethylenetrimethylene;

R^6 is methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, i-propoxy, n-butoxy, methylthio, ethylthio, n-propylthio, i-propylthio, i-butylthio, sec-butylthio, benzyloxy, benzylthio, methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl, methylthiomethyl, or ethylthiomethyl;
R^3 is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, i-butyl, sec-butyl, t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, i-propoxy, n-butoxy, methylthio, ethylthio, n-propylthio, i-propylthio, dimethylamino, acetylamino, N-acetylmethylamino, diethylamino, ethylmethylamino, propylmethylamino, phenyl, phenoxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, nitro, trifluoromethyl, difluoromethoxy, trifluoromethoxy, N-methylcarbamoyl, methoxycarbonyl, methanesulfinyl, ethanesulfinyl, methanesulfonyl, ethanesulfonyl, acetyl, methoxymethyl, 1-methoxyethyl, 3-pyridyl, morpholino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, 2-oxopyrrolidino, 1-methoxyiminoethyl or morpholinocarbonyl;
R^4 is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, nitro, methoxy or ethoxy; or
R^3 and R^4 taken together may form -O-CH_2-O-;
A is benzene;
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

Claim 42 (previously presented): A method for manufacturing an anti-inflammatory agent, which comprises mixing a compound according to claim 35 with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, solvent or base.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 35 wherein R^1 is a trimethylene substituted with C2-C6 alkylene or optionally substituted with C1-C6 alkyl, R^2 is a group of the formula: -C(=R^5)-R^6 wherein R^5 is O or S; R^6 is C1-C10 alkoxy, C1-C10 alkylthio, C6-C14 arayl-C1-C10 alkyl optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-614 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy, C6-C14 arayl-C1-C10 alkylthio optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-614 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy, C1-C10 alkoxy C1-C10 alkyl, C1-C10 alkylthio C1-C10 alkyl or C1-C10 alkyl substituted with amino optionally substituted with C1-C10 alkyl or acyl;
m is 0;
A is benzene optionally substituted with the same substituents (i) to (xxix) as defined above for C6-C14 aryl-C1-C10 alkyloxy;
a pharmaceutical acceptable salt thereof, or a hydrate thereof.

Claim 44 (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to claim 35 ~~which is useful as an anti-inflammatory agent~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, solvent or base.